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Korea, Republic of

Grain and Feed

Rice PS&D Update

2003

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Report Highlights: Cool and rainy weather in August and September is expected to reduce Korea's rice harvest prospects to 4.7 million metric tons; more than 200,000 tons less than the 2002 crop. Delivery of the 400,000-ton rice aid package for North Korea is expected to be completed by early December 2003. MY 2003/04 ending stocks, in turn, are expected to decline to 800,000 tons.

Includes PSD Changes: Yes
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Seoul [KS1]
[KS]

Production:

Cool and rainy conditions during August and September have prompted a reduction in the forecast of rice yields for Korea's 2003 crop. Reduced yield prospects are expected to result in a crop of 4.7 million metric tons (MMT). The estimated yield for the 2003 crop of 4.7 MT/ha (on a milled basis) would be 4 percent less than the five-year-average yield of 4.9 MT/ha. The revised yield forecast is similar to yields for the 2002 crop which were impacted by heavy rains and the effects of typhoon Rusa which struck Korea in late-August of 2002.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) has marginally increased the estimate of harvested area to 1.016 million hectares. Despite the slight increase, harvested area in 2003 is still expected to be nearly 4 percent less than 2002.

Rice Aid For North Korea:

According to the Ministry of Unification (MU), South Korea shipped 143,000 MT of local rice to North Korea from July 3 to September 3 under the 400,000-ton rice aid package. Despite the difficulty of loading and shipping the rice during wet weather, completion of the first 100,000 MT tranche and substantial progress toward completion of the second tranche indicates that the remainder of the 400,000 MT is likely to be shipped by early December 2003. Previous estimates included the first tranche. Accordingly, the estimate for MY 2002/03 exports has been increased 200,000 MT to 574,000 MT and the estimate for MY 2003/04 has been increased to 100,000 MT.

PSD Table

Country Commodity	Korea, Republic of Rice, Milled						UOM
			(1000 HA)		(1000 MT)		
	2001	Revised	2002	Estimate	2003 Forecast	New	
Market Year Begin	USDA Official	[Estimate]	[Official]	[Estimate]	[Official]	[New]	
	11/2001		11/2002		11/2003	MM/YYYY	
Area Harvested	1083	1083	1053	1053	1000	1016 (1000 HA)	
Beginning Stocks	1739	1281	2143	1683	1341	1073 (1000 MT)	
Milled Production	5515	5515	4927	4927	5000	4700 (1000 MT)	
Rough Production	7407	7407	6687	6650	6700	6351 (1000 MT)	
MILLING RATE (.9999)	7446	7446	7368	7409	7463	7400 (1000 MT)	
TOTAL Imports	115	119	145	133	160	160 (1000 MT)	
Jan-Dec Imports	148	136	180	180	205	205 (1000 MT)	
Jan-Dec Import U.S.	65	50	0	50	0	60 (1000 MT)	
TOTAL SUPPLY	7369	6915	7215	6743	6501	5933 (1000 MT)	
TOTAL Exports	126	126	674	574	0	100 (1000 MT)	
Jan-Dec Exports	358	358	500	442	0	0 (1000 MT)	
TOTAL Dom. Consumption	5100	5106	5200	5096	5275	5016 (1000 MT)	
Ending Stocks	2143	1683	1341	1073	1226	817 (1000 MT)	
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	7369	6915	7215	6743	6501	5933 (1000 MT)	

Rice Area, Yield and Production				
CROP		AREA	YIELD	PRODUCTION
YEAR		(1000HA)	(KG/HA)	MILLED
1991		1209	4454	5385
1992		1157	4608	5331
1993	a/	1136	4181	4750
1994		1103	4587	5060
1995	b/	1056	4445	4694
1996		1050	5070	5323
1997		1052	5180	5449
1998		1059	4813	5097
1999		1066	4937	5263
2000		1072	4936	5291
2001		1083	5092	5515
2002	c/	1053	4679	4927

a/ Wet and unseasonably cool weather during the summer.

b/ Flood damage in August in the central regions and unfavorable weather throughout the peninsula during the latter part of the growing season.

c/ Heavy rains during the summer and the effects of typhoon RUSA (Aug. 31 – Sep.1)

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry